

Notice of Allowability

Application No.

10/781,740

Applicant(s)

TAKEUCHI, KENGO

Examiner

MUHAMMAD N. EDUN

Art Unit

2627

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☐ This communication is responsive to ____.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1-27.
3. ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. ____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: ____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.

THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

4. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
5. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
- (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
- 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date ____.
- (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date ____.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
6. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 1. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 5. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application |
| 2. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 6. <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413),
Paper No./Mail Date ____. |
| 3. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statements (PTO/SB/08),
Paper No./Mail Date ____ | 7. <input type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Amendment/Comment |
| 4. <input type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit
of Biological Material | 8. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance |
| | 9. <input type="checkbox"/> Other ____. |

Prior Art Citation

1. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

Okayama et al. (5,838,967) discloses a reproducing device having the ability of reproducing image data from the recording medium.

Reasons For Allowance

The following is an Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance:

Re claims 1-23

The prior art of record alone or in combination does not teach or suggest the reproducing apparatus having the combination of elements with their recited functions, along with having the specific function of the:

determining means for detecting a reproduction stop date when reproduction of the image data is stopped in the past and determining a reproduction start position in the image data on a basis of the reproduction stop date, as set forth in claims 1-10;

determining means for detecting a reproduction stop date when reproduction of the image data is stopped in the past and a reproduction stop position at a time of the reproduction stop and determining a reproduction start position in the image data on a

basis of the reproduction stop date and the reproduction stop position, as set forth in claims 11-18;

stop position detecting means for detecting a stop position of a last reproduction stop of the image data, and reproduction position determining means for selecting any one of a first position corresponding to the stop position detected by said stop position detecting means, a second position corresponding to a head position of the image data, and a third position located between the first position and the second position as a reproduction start position according to a time period elapsing from the last reproduction stop of the image data to an instruction of the reproduction start by said reproduction instruction means, as set forth in claims 19 and 20; and

wherein said apparatus detects a time period elapsing from a last stop of reproduction of the image data to the reproduction start instruction on a basis of stop date information indicating a date of a last stop of reproduction of the image data, and wherein said apparatus starts reproduction of the image data from a head of the image data when the elapsed time period exceeds a predetermined time period, and starts the reproduction of the image data from a position immediately before a position of the last stop of the reproduction of the image data when the elapsed time period is shorter than the predetermined time period, as set forth in claims 21-23.

Re claims 24-27

The prior art of record alone or in combination does not teach or suggest the reproduction method having the combination of steps with their recited process, along with the specific steps:

detecting a reproduction stop date when reproduction of the image data is stopped in the past and determining a reproduction start position in the image data on a basis of the reproduction stop date, as set forth claim 24;

detecting a reproduction stop date when reproduction of the image data is stopped in the past and a reproduction stop position at a time of the reproduction stop and determining a reproduction start position in the image data on a basis of the reproduction stop date and the reproduction stop position, as set forth in claim 25

detecting a stop position of a last reproduction stop of the image data;
selecting any one of a first position corresponding to the stop position detected at said detecting step, a second position corresponding to a head position of the image data, and a third position located between the first position and the second position as a reproduction start position according to a time period elapsing from the last reproduction stop of the image data to an instruction of the reproduction start in said instructing step, as set forth in claim 26; and

detecting time period elapsing from a last stop of reproduction of the image data to the reproduction start instruction on a basis of stop date information indicating a date of a last stop of reproduction of the image data, and starting reproduction of the image data from a head of the image data when the elapsed time period exceeds a predetermined time period, and starting the reproduction of the image data from a position immediately before a position of the last stop of the reproduction of the image data when the elapsed time period is shorter than the predetermined time period, as set forth in claim 27.

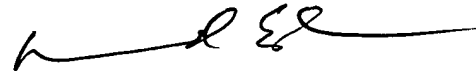
Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the Issue Fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably **accompany** the Issue Fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to MUHAMMAD N. EDUN whose telephone number is 571-272-7617. The examiner can normally be reached on FLEXITIME.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Hoa Nguyen can be reached on 571-272-7579. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Art Unit: 2627

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).



MUHAMMAD N EDUN
Primary Examiner
Art Unit 2627